

# MR. HAPGOOD WON'T SIT DOWN; HOUSE QUITS IN UPROAR

Saturday Morning Session of Legislature Is Enlivened by the Radio-Active Member from Peru.

## NO QUORUM HIS CONTENTION

But Roll Call Finds 139 Representatives Present and Business Goes On, Reaching Climax in Cat Calls and Slamming of Desk Covers.

Montpelier, Feb. 7.—A tumultuous session in an atmosphere charged with merriment and excitement was held in the House yesterday forenoon, when Hapgood of Peru, with blood in his eye, both for the large number of bautees and for his deep-seated disgust of the various measures up for consideration, started a filibuster which kept the House on the jump and everyone present wondering as to what would happen next.

Over one hundred members who Friday drew their first salary having mounted to one hundred dollars, were either at home or on the way here when the House opened, and the roll call of no quorum was so close as to make for an uncomfortable situation, though drifted in from the lobbies to make good, however.

**HAPGOOD OPENS FIRE.**  
The trouble started with the calling of the first bill on the calendar, H. 6, relating to burial grounds, which came in with a favorable report. Hapgood at once took the floor, and remarked that after a close study of the calendar and the bill therein referred to, which he said he had made it his business to look into thoroughly, he found everyone of them, barring H. 272, to pay the Capital Hardware company a bill incurred in the State in 1913, were either silly, vicious and ought to be killed.

When the speaker put the question of advancing the bill to its third reading, Mr. Hapgood raised the point of no quorum, whereupon Mr. Speaker called the attention of the House to the large amount of business for it, which should at this time be acted upon in order to advance the work, so Mr. Soule withdrew his motion; the speaker was sustained by the vote on the question of a quorum being present and proceeded with the bill.

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**MR. HAPGOOD, THE MAN OF PROTEST.**  
Hapgood again bobbed up when H. 272, relating to school endowment forests, was up. He objected to the bill as a fish project entailing large expense on the State. Mr. Stone of Woodford opposed the bill, asserting that the thing had never proved to be, or work as a practical proposition, and that authorities to sustain his position.

Mr. Caswell of Derby thought it a measure of such scope and importance should receive the attention of a large number of members and on his objection the bill was ordered to lie on the table.

**MR. HAPGOOD AGAIN CAME UP.**  
Hapgood again came up when H. 272, relating to the sale of meat and on public highways, was reported; he said he rose to explain

his actions of the morning and his attitude toward certain measures. In his endeavor to make his position good and his point clear, he began reading extracts from an editorial, recently published in one of the State papers; he had not proceeded far when Mr. Stone of Vermont raised the point of order that Mr. Hapgood was not speaking in the question, whereupon the speaker ruled Hapgood out of order; Hapgood would not sit down and while trying to talk some more, Mr. Russell of Framingham obtained recognition and made a few pertinent remarks for the special benefit of Mr. Hapgood, suggesting that if this Legislature wished to go on record as one of the most expensive to the State as well as facing the longest session, it would be through the attitude and actions of Mr. Hapgood, in the way in which he obstructed legislation.

**THE DIN DROWNS HIS VOICE.**  
These remarks were received with applause throughout the chamber; but the rebuke had no more effect on the gentleman from Peru than water on a duck's back; he endeavored to resume his oration in his own defense but the speaker again ruled him out of order, while the slamming of desk covers and cat calls came from all parts of the House in the midst of the hubbub and confusion, Mr. Caswell of Derby moved to adjourn. The House will reconvene Monday afternoon at three o'clock.

**OFFICIAL RECORD.**  
**HOUSE—MORNING.**  
Devotional exercises were conducted by Mr. Miller, the member from Bethel.

**THIRD READING ORDERED.**  
H. 176, an act to amend an act relating to burial grounds, proposed by Mr. Hapgood of Peru, which called for a rising vote, and third reading was ordered.

**ORDERED TO LIE.**  
H. 272, an act to provide for school endowment forests, proposed by Mr. Hapgood of Peru and Mr. Stone of Woodford, favored by Mr. Caswell of Derby, and on motion of Mr. Caswell ordered to lie.

**THIRD READING ORDERED.**  
H. 272, an act to pay the Capital Hardware company the sum therein named.

**ORDERED TO LIE.**  
H. 272, an act to amend No. 49 of the acts of 1910, relating to appeals of taxpayers and towns from appraisals.

**ORDERED TO LIE.**  
H. 272, an act to amend section 2,477 of the public statutes, as amended by No. 119 of the acts of 1909, and by No. 119 of the acts of 1912, relating to town officers.

**KILLED.**  
H. 123, an act to provide for the use of voting machines.

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